March 5, 2015, General Education Meeting – APPROVED minutes

Present: Voting members: L. Osika, S. Buck, S. Rowe, J. Jackson, S. Christofferson, A. Wise, T. Davis, R. Fielder, M. Germain
Ex-Officio members: M. Sudeith, Guests: E. Gaytan, D. Janssen

Quorum reached 12:35,

1. Approval of minutes from Feb. 2015 meeting
   a. J. Jackson motion to approve minutes, 2nd by T. Davis, vote: 7 yes, 0 no, 0 abstain.

2. Update on elections for vacant positions
   a. S. Christofferson: a list of Unit A faculty has been obtained, so electronic balloting might be possible. We might not actually need any election if positions are uncontested.
   b. Plan for nominations: electronic forms will be emailed to department chairs, announcements will be made via other methods, also. Additionally, open positions will receive a form to alert them that the position is open. Signatures from your college need to be obtained in support of your service. If colleges are fewer than 10 tenure/tenure-track, obtain as many as possible. Deadline, March 31st. Will review applications and discuss elections if necessary during April meeting.

3. Course review process
   a. Communications courses discussion:
   b. At CSU, we currently have 36 credit hours GenEd requirements. The IAI recommends 37-42 GenEd credits, we are already one credit shy of the recommended.
   i. If we were to include these into GenEd, where might these courses fit? We currently don’t have an appropriate category for them to fit.
   ii. Many members thought these courses were previously valuable, so we kept them on the “bucket list”. Most all other Illinois universities require a Speech/communications course, but we currently do not.
   iii. General discussion was that foreign language was important, and we didn’t want to do an either/or situation with foreign language/speech. It was also generally agreed that adding 3 more credits to accommodate additional course was not feasible, as it would affect lots of programs that are already credit-heavy.
   iv. Some programs (some education programs and business, accounting, for example) already require some sort of speech/communication as part of their program requirements. For those majors, it would be easy to require a speech GenEd.
   v. Some research will be done to figure out which programs already require speech and if not, how an additional three credit hours might affect the program/requirements.
      1. A Moodle discussion board will be posted to debate the pros/cons and information obtained from various departments.
   c. Overview of entire approved course list: final review & decisions:
      i. Need to look at overall list to decide if we agree to include ALL The courses we’ve approved.
      ii. An updated spreadsheet detailing all the categories each course fulfills will be created so we can ensure all the 6 categories are being covered.

Next meeting, April 2, 2015
Adjourned at 1:54pm

Minutes prepared by A. Wise